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ARRIVAL OF THE CROSSLEY REFLECTOR AND DOME AT  
MOUNT HAMILTON.

The mirrors and finer mechanical parts of the Crossley Reflector (3200 lbs.) left Liverpool on June 28th and were delivered at Mount Hamilton by the WELLS, FARGO Express Co. on July 18th.

The mounting of the telescope (15,105 lbs.) left Liverpool June 18th, also, and was delivered at Mount Hamilton by the Southern Pacific Co. August 4th. The largest part of the Dome (47,033 lbs.) left Liverpool on July 26th and arrived at Mount Hamilton September 19th. A further shipment of twelve iron girders of the dome arrived in New York, August 15th, and arrived here September 19th.

It is probable that the erection of the iron dome will be postponed till the Spring of 1896.

E. S. H.

NEW OBSERVATORIES.

The University of Pennsylvania, the Ohio State University, the CASE School of Applied Science (Cleveland), and the University of Minnesota are having telescopes built.

The observatory of the University of Pennsylvania is to be located at "Flower Farm," on the West Chester road, a short distance from Philadelphia. The ground has been broken "for the first of the new buildings to be erected there, at a cost of \$50,000, and the work will be pushed rapidly to completion. It is proposed to make the building as low as possible compatible with architectural effect, to avoid giving undue height to the pier which will carry the telescope." The principal instrument of this observatory is to be an eighteen-inch refractor, with an objective by BRASHEAR.

The EMERSON McMILLIN Observatory of the Ohio State University is to have a twelve-inch refractor, with objective and spectroscope by BRASHEAR and mounting by WARNER & SWASEY, transit by SAEGMULLER, clock by RIEFLER, and some smaller instruments.

The new telescope of the CASE School will be eleven inches aperture, and that of the University of Minnesota ten and one-half inches. The latter will be provided with a photographic corrector.

Mr. BRASHEAR is also making *two* important astro-photographic *doublets* for the University of Heidelberg, Germany. They are each to be forty centimetres (sixteen inches) clear aperture, and, on account of their large size, we may justly expect them to make an important advance in astronomical photography. Most of the doublets now in use by astronomers are from six to eight inches in aperture, and of comparatively short focal length. The Willard lens of the LICK Observatory, with which so many fine photographs of nebulae, comets, and the Milky Way have been obtained, is only six inches in diameter and 30.82 inches equivalent focal length. The lenses which Dr. MAX WOLF has been using at Heidelberg are of the same order of magnitude. Dr. WOLF is to be congratulated on his new instruments.

W. J. H.

#### PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE SETTING SUN.

The two plates representing the distorted disc of the setting sun as observed at Mount Hamilton are selected from a series of ten plates, representing the sunsets on sixty different nights in the summer of 1893. The photographs were taken by Mr. A. L. COLTON, as a record of some of the curious effects of atmospheric refraction. A lens of forty-nine inches focus was used, and the original size of the images has been retained. Much of the detail of the original negatives has been lost in the reproduction. The entire series of plates, with a descriptive article by Mr. COLTON, will be included in a forthcoming volume of "Contributions from the LICK Observatory."

#### A VISIT TO THE OBSERVATORY OF PULKOWA—IMPRESSIONS OF A LITERARY MAN.

[From a Paper by the Vicomte EUGÈNE MELCHIOR DE VOGÜÉ.]

" \* \* \* A troïka ride is the favorite amusement of St. Petersburg society of winter nights, and the one that leaves in the mind of the foreigner the most vivid and novel souvenir. The inns where the Tsiganes sing are the usual object of these nocturnal excursions; sometimes, however, others are suggested; for instance, to the Observatory of Pulkowa, which rises midway between Petersburg and Tsarskoe-Selo, on a hill crowned with pine trees. It is the only elevation on the marshy plains which surround the capital. There lives a little German colony; for they are Germans who keep watch over the Russian heavens.